and methicillin-resistant *S. aureus*, respectively. Only 2 out of the 40 children colonized with MRSA had been hospitalized within 1 year. *S. aureus* isolates were resistant to penicillin (98.2%), erythromycin (43.9%), clindamycin (1.2%), ciprofloxacin (0.6%), gentamicin (7.3%), chloramphenicol (1.2%), and tetracycline (3.7%). Inducible MLSBi resistance was found in 41.5% of *S. aureus* isolates by the D-zone test. All isolates were susceptible to vancomycin, trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, and rifampin.

Conclusion: MRSA carriage rates among Korean children attending day care centers were high. These findings necessitate the continued surveillance of the carriage rate and antimicrobial resistance patterns of *S. aureus*.

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51.017

Leptospirosis: analysis of the notification records and investigation on the year of 2007, of the municipal district of Salvador-Bahia-Brazil, 2009

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Background: The leptospirosis is an acute infectious disease that attacks men and animals. It is caused by microorganisms belonging to the gender leptospirose. Leptospirose is endemic in Brazil and the largest incidence commonly occur in areas with larger precipitation rainfall subject to the occurrence of inundations and of precarious socioeconomic conditions. It is a disease of compulsory notification in Brazil and it feeds the System of Information of Offences of Notification - SINAN. The notification is accomplished by the assistant units through the completion of a record that contains the patients personal data, and postepidemic investigation. It collects important data such as race, occupation, disease related to the work, signs and symptoms, risk factors and data regarding the hospitalization, final classification of the disease, confirmation criterion and evolution among others

Methods: Study is grown throug quantitative type - descriptive with the objective of identifying the fields that frequently left out in the notification records and investigation of the leptospirosis to discover the consequences of those actions for the evaluation of the data in the municipal district of Salvador-Bahia-Brazil. The completeion of the listed feilds were analyzed regarding partner-demographic data, occupation, pregnant, disease related to the work, hospitalization, final classification, confirmation criterion and evolution.

Results: It was verified that the data related to the conditions partner - demographic, beginning of the symptoms, investigation date and closing of the case frequently they were filled out accuratly and correctly. The fields that presented smaller percentile of completion are: race, occupation, work-relaed diseases, hospitalization, final classification, confirmation criterion and evolution.

Conclusion: The lack of registrations in the fields disables the description of the epidemic profile of the population reached by the leptospirose and as consequence the epi-

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51.018

Lassa fever awareness and practices in a nigerian rural community

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Background: Lassa fever is one of the causes of morbidity and mortality in Nigeria. The knowledge, attitude and practice by the people is largely undetermined. This information is an important requirement for the design of a strategic plan for the control of the disease. This necessitated the study in Ebhodiza, Uhiele-Ekpoma, a community of about 500 persons.

Methods: By means of a cluster sampling technique, one hundred and sixty (160) interviewer administered structured questionnaires were distributed to the respondents while one hundred and forty seven (147) of them were retrieved, giving a response rate of 91.9%.

Results: Farming was predominant occupation (61%). Only 32% had up to primary school level of education. Thirty-six percent (36%) of the respondents have heard about the disease, mainly through the electronic media. Fifty-one percent (51%) identified rats as the main source of infection of Lassa fever, while 14% of respondents said that the disease can be spread from person to person.

The study revealed that only 31% of the people had a correct knowledge of Lassa fever, and 32% had poor attitude and engage in practices that favor transmission of the disease. Most (72%) of the respondents do not use any means to control rats in their households. Fortythree percent (43%) of respondents encouraged bush- burning.

There was a significant relationship between the level of education of respondents and knowledge of Lassa fever ($X = 3.4$, $P < 0.05$). However, the relationship between the occupation of respondents and practices was not significant ($x = 3.2$, $P > 0.05$).

Conclusion: It is therefore recommended that the three tiers of government and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in Nigeria should intensify effort in adequately educating the populace through enlightenment campaigns most especially through the mass media and religious groups on the mode of transmission of the disease, its signs and symptoms and encourage community participation in health education and environmental sanitation.

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